Address to:

Mail Stop RCE

P.O. Box 1450

PTO/SB/30 (05-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-8031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## he Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number Request 09/634,312 Application Number For Filing Date August 8, 2000 Continued Examination (RCE) First Named Inventor **Transmittal** Mikio Kurihara 2871 Art Unit Commissioner for Patents Duong, Thoi V. Examiner Name Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 JP9-1999-0161US1(8728-410) Attorney Docket Number

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

	==		
1.	an ap	nendm	ssion required under 37 CFR 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and ents enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such ent(s).
	a.	X	Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
		i.	Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rety Brief previously filed on
		11.	X Other Amendment filed July 23, 2003.
	b.		Enclosed
		i.	Amendment/Reply iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
		ii.	Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s) iv. Other
2.	Mi	iscella	aneous )
ì			Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a
	a.	Ш	period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
	b.		Other
3. ſ	F	ees	The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
	a.	X	The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0510/IBM
		i.	X RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
		ii.	Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
		iii.	Other
	b.		Check in the amount of \$enclosed
	C.	$\Box$	Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)
			WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.
Name	(Pr	int/Type	SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED  b) Eric M-Parham Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 45,747
Signa			9 12 Date 455 25, 2003
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.			
		nt/Type)	
Signatu			9- Pal Date August 25 2003
This co	dlact	tion of i	nformation is required by 37 CFR 1.174. The information is required to obtain or retain a honofit by the public which it to file (and by the USDTO)

This collection of information is required by 37 CPK 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the puous which is to file (and by use USF IV to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

08/29/2003 MBERHE

0000006 500510 09634312

01 FC:1801

750.00 DA